

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15

NSC-05 PA-02 /075 W

-----062810 181839Z /72

P R 181821Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5257

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS LONDON 06053

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UK, XT, US, EAIR, ETRD

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: BRITISH AIRWAYS ALSO WANTS THE 757;

IT CALLS FOR TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION IN  
AEROSPACE

REF: A) LONDON 6048-; B) LONDON 1777

1. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, BRITISH AIRWAYS (BA) HAS  
TOLD THE U.K. GOVERNMENT THAT BEGINNING IN THE MID-  
1980'S, IT WANTS TO BUY UP TO 40 BOEING 757'S (160

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SEATS EACH) TO REPLACE ITS TRIDENT THREES. THIS WOULD  
BE IN ADDITION TO THE BOEING 737'S IT WANTS MORE  
QUICKLY. (SEE REF A.)

2. IN MAKING THE ANNOUNCEMENT APRIL 14, ROSS STANTON,  
BA'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE, CAME DOWN SQUARELY IN FAVOR OF  
BRITISH-AMERICAN COOPERATION IN CIVILIAN AEROSPACE.

ACCORDING TO THE "FINANCIAL TIMES", HE SAID:

A. "BRITISH AIRWAYS BELIEVES THAT BY FAR THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE LONG-TERM OUTLOOK FOR BRITAIN'S AIR TRANSPORT -- THE MANUFACTURERS, THE AIRLINES, AND THEIR EMPLOYEES -- IS THE FOSTERING OF A NEW CONCEPT OF A TRANS-ATLANTIC APPROACH TO BUILDING, CHOOSING AND OPERATING NEW JET AIRCRAFT.

B. "THIS WOULD MEAN COMBINING THE BEST AIRFRAMES AND THE BEST ENGINES TO PRODUCE THE BEST AND MOST SALEABLE AIRCRAFT. IT WOULD MEAN THAT THE AIRLINES OF EACH COUNTRY COULD CHOOSE THE MOST SUITABLE AIRCRAFT AND ENGINES REGARDLESS OF NATIONALITY.

C. "SUCH AN APPROACH HAS ALREADY BEEN STIMULATED BY THE RECENT PANAMERICAN CHOICE OF ROLLS-ROYCE RB211 ENGINES IN THEIR TRISTAR (L-1011) FLEET."

3. THE 757, EXPECTED TO USE THE ROLLS-ROYCE RB211-535, A YET-TO-BE-DEVELOPED SMALLER VERSION OF THE RB-211, IS OF COURSE THE AIRCRAFT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF WHICH BOEING HAS OFFERED BRITISH AEROSPACE AN IMPORTANT ROLE. (SEE REF A.)

4. THE BA ANNOUNCEMENT DID SAY THAT IF A NEW BAC-111 IS DEVELOPED ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED IN REF B, IT MIGHT REPLACE THE 737'S BY THE LATE 1980'S.

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## Message Attributes

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